

UNIVERSITY MISSOURIAN

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COLUMBIA'S PAVING

One of the old-time "grads" who came back for the game after many years' absence from Columbia leaned up against a corner store and remarked to some of the young fellows he had just met: "Paving makes a wonderful difference in a town. When I went to school here the streets were mud holes and this downpour would have made them almost impassable."

"Trying to make strangers like a town with muddy, unimproved, ill-kept streets is like trying to make a man fall in love with a slouchy girl, with run-down heels and a muddy skirt," said another man in the party, as he twisted his neck to gaze after a co-ed who was garbed just contrarily.

They were right about Columbia. The pavements, white way and street improvements have made it look like another town. They go a long way toward creating a favorable impression upon the many visitors who flock here.

Columbia has nineteen and seven-tenths miles of pavement, exclusive of this year's improvements. Several blocks more are being put down now. Most of the pavement is brick—about fifteen and one-half miles—well grounded in cement to stand the heavier traffic. There are three and one-half miles of macadam and one and one-half miles of concrete, which is better for residence streets where the heavy traffic does not come.

All this paving was put down at a cost of \$600,821.31. That would be a nice little sum of money if you or I had it, and we can think of lots of worth-while things to do with it, but when we compare the Columbia of today with the Columbia of a few years ago, when the streets were buried under mud and slime, when we think what Columbia's visitors would have thought of her after Thursday's downpour, if that \$600,821.31 hadn't been thus expended, we'll have to agree that it was a worth-while investment.

A STRUGGLE WHICH TRIUMPHED

There is a lesson for university students in the Army-Navy football game of last Saturday, in the triumph of Elmer Oliphant. To him the West Point cadets owe their victory. The Army made two touchdowns. Oliphant carried the ball on each occasion, dashing through a broken field and crossing the Navy goal line.

Oliphant is a former Purdue University star. The story of his career at Purdue is a remarkable one. It is the story of a youth with no means, but with high ambition. He had to work hard for his education. During the summer before his last year in the university it is said he worked fourteen hours a day as a stoker in a steel plant. He had to do this in order to spare the time when he returned to school to take part in athletics. And Oliphant was not only a great athlete, but he was one of the best students and one of the most popular in the institution. His triumph at West Point is a reward of courage and determination.

AMERICAN MADE

It was Emerson who first suggested the idea of a made-in-America policy for Americans. In his essay on "Self Reliance" this is what he says: "We imitate. Our houses are built with foreign taste; our shelves are garnished with foreign ornaments; our opinions, our tastes, our whole minds lean and follow the Past and Distant, as the eyes of a maid follow her mistress. The soul created the arts wherever they have flourished. It was in his own mind that the artist sought his model. And why need we copy the Doric or the Gothic model? Beauty, convenience, grandeur of thought and quaint expression are as near to us as any, and if the American artist will

study with hope and love the precise thing to be done by him, he will create a house in which all these will find themselves fitted, and taste and sentiment will be satisfied also."

These words sound rather modern don't they? Of course Emerson was speaking of individuals, but self-reliance is as important to the development of a nation as of an individual.

The present war has been a lesson to us in the value of national self-reliance. Our new attitude toward things American means that we are now on the way to national independence, an independence which must apply to art, literature and music as well as to the products of the industries.

Who knows that our Millet of the future may not find the subject for his "Gleaners" from the simple rural life of our own Mississippi Valley? That our Turners and Claudes will get their inspiration in the grandeur of the Catskills or the Rockies?

Our Ruskins may find in the quiet rural scenes of the Middle West freedom from the sordidness of industrial life for which they might search in vain in England. In the myths and legends of the American Indians there is subject matter for tales as fanciful as any Scott ever dreamed of. Our folk songs and ballads contain stories as wonderful as those of Robin Hood, awaiting only the hand of an American Scott to be preserved in a new "Minstrelsy of the American Border."

Indeed, we need no longer talk of ruined castles beside the Danube without taking account of the scenic beauty of our own western states, to which the Old World presents no counterpart. There is little need for our artists to go to the Alps for inspiration as long as we have the Rockies. And from the Golden Gate the American may look out upon a sunset as gorgeous as any beneath Italian skies.

The Open Column

Whom Do You Nominate?

Editor the Missourian: I should like to suggest that the Missourian receive suggestions for persons to accompany the Ford party to Europe. I have two or three persons in mind that I would like to nominate in case you decide to declare the nominations open. WARLIKE.

Replies to the Research.

Editor the Missourian: The editor of the Research seems to be desirous of having someone take issue with him. As his identity is supposed to be unknown, I take this method of joining issue with him.

In his "bulletin board" edition he seems to assume that people acknowledge the justness of his charges and accept his facts as true merely because our mass meeting speakers did not deny them. He seems to think they could do nothing else because they called it a pusillanimous paper. Does he really think that his paper was of such importance that we should turn our mass meeting over to a discussion of it? The mere facts that it is an anonymous publication is sufficient that the great majority of the student body would not give credit to the statements made in it.

I assume that the editor is a student, and as such, is interested in the betterment of this school. No doubt his purpose is to remedy what he supposes to be an evil. But the distributing over the state of an anonymous paper containing articles written in the manner in which those articles in the Research were written, and nearing on to libel, will undoubtedly do more harm for the University than do the existence of those supposed evils which he intends to do away with.

Although there are some vestiges of truth in the Research, the majority of the articles convey impressions which are not true. If the editor cares to make himself known this can be proved to him. His most vigorous attack is upon the athletic department, and in his statements as to this he is in error. Our athletic department does not disobey the conference rules, and it is an acknowledged fact that our athletics are of the cleanest type.

In his citation of the Spracklen affair, the editor is in error. Mr. Schulte did not tell Mr. Spracklen that if he came out and made good he might not have to work. His attack on the personnel of our football team is unjustified. Even were this attack true, it is an attack on the players as ordinary human beings and not as athletes or as a part of the athletic department. He is wrong when he says the student body is neglected as to athletic training. His statistics as to the health of athletes are not reliable, and diligent search would have shown him that they have been refuted.

His attack upon our governor and senator is certainly unjustified and in this he shows utter disrespect

for those whom we have chosen to lead us. He shows his satirical and most unchivalrous personality by anonymously attacking our women.

As a student of the University, and one interested in the welfare of this institution, I express my opinion that any anonymous criticism is detrimental to the school and should not be tolerated. When "Jack" Collier found something wrong with us, he stood up and told us about it and we admired him for so doing. If the editor of the Research cares to criticize us, let him back up those criticisms with his name. R. E. W.

Looking Backward

Seventy Years Ago.

"Major Noah says that there is no such thing as determining a man's intellect by his title, inasmuch as a count may be of no account at all, and a baron may be as barren of brains as a chestnut tree of walnuts. Very true."

Fifty Years Ago.

"The skeletons of 160,000 cattle, mules and horses killed during the war in the Shenandoah Valley have been collected at a bone factory near Winchester."

"P. T. Barnum is soon to issue a new book called 'The Humbugs of the World.'"

Thirty Years Ago.

"A terrible cyclone swept over the Philippine Islands on November 22, destroying 8,000 buildings and killing 22 people."

"Mrs. Rhoda Howard died in Bath county, Ky., aged 116. She retained her faculties to the last. She was married three times, smoked a pipe and never took medicine."

Twenty Years Ago.

"Elizabeth Cady Stanton is about through with her work of expurgating the Bible 'so that it will be fit for women and children to read.' Mrs. Stanton is 80 years of age and most of her literary work was done twenty years ago."

"The Northwest Missouri Press Association has been in session at St.

Joseph this week. A full attendance is reported. The association has been organized some twenty-two years."

Ten Years Ago.

"Since the mutiny in the penitentiary at Jefferson City last Friday, the prison board has made arrangements to install six galling guns to be used in case of attempted escape."

"Jim Jeffries saw his first game of football the other day and says it is so much more brutal than prize fighting that he will never again doubt his respectability."

Five Years Ago.

The Charity Organization Society provided a nurse for field work in Columbia.

Boys of the Christian and Presbyterian churches voted to organize Scout Troops.

The Tribune Printing Company moved its office from Broadway to Ninth street.

A CHANCE FOR ESSAY WRITERS

National Municipal and Security Leagues Offer \$100 and \$500 Prizes.

Now is the time for the would-be essayist to win honor and prizes, if the bulletin boards and their announcements can be considered as opportunity. The latest announcements of prizes offered are those of the National Municipal League of Philadelphia and the National Security League of New York.

The National Municipal League offers \$100 for the best essay on "Efficient Billboard Regulations." It is open to the undergraduates of all colleges and universities which have distinct courses in municipal government. Students in the University of Missouri are eligible.

The National Security League essay deals with preparedness for war. Five hundred dollars is offered by Jules S. Bache of New York as a prize. Both contests close March 15, 1916.

With the announcement of the National Municipal League contest, the winner of last year's contest is named. Miss Berenice Brown, Radcliffe College, Cambridge, wrote the best essay.

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ALWAYS A GOOD SHOW

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Alabama Students Use M. U. Deskbooks

Jasper C. Hutto, a graduate of the School of Journalism of the University in 1911, pays a compliment to the new Deskbook of the School of Journalism by ordering twelve copies for use in his classes in Howard College, Birmingham, Ala. Mr. Hutto began

teaching courses in journalism in Howard College this fall. The copies of the Deskbook were sent by the University yesterday.

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